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Board of Trustees, Urban America Inc., for delivery at  
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The nation clearly needs to take a stronger hand in its future. This report, "One Year Later," represents a second warning of the dangers inherent in continued neglect of the smoldering domestic crisis.

These dangers are avoidable. We are rich enough, and I think compassionate enough, to provide sustenance where there is now poverty in our cities and justice where there is now prejudice. But to do so we must sharply revise our current national priorities. We must make a conscious choice to end the human destructiveness of the slum-ghetto environment.

We must also make some conscious, foresighted plans for the crowded future and the growth that it will bring. Otherwise, that growth will mean social division beyond anything we know now.

Yet, as this report and the Civil Disorders Commission's report both have made clear, so far we have been willing just to see growth happen, without plan or purpose to guide it. We have, more through indifference than intention, allowed America to drift toward being two societies, with blacks and whites socially, economically and spatially apart from one another.

The immediate task--as these two reports, one year apart, tell us--is to bring hope and redress to the people of the slums and ghettos. But we also must immediately begin to adjust our system of development so that slums and ghettos no longer are created. We must build the future to a conscious design that will serve us all, and make us one.

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